

Message Text

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10
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ACDA-07 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 NRC-05 /073 W
----- 022763

R 270504Z AUG 76
FM AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1907
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
CINCPAC
CINCPACFLT
CNO WASHDC
AMCONSUL AUCKLAND

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE WELLINGTON 3225

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, MNUC, MARR, ANZUS, NZ
SUBJECT: LABOR PARTY PAMPHLET ON "NUCLEAR-FREE NEW ZEALAND"

1. SUMMARY: LABOUR PARTY HAS BEGUN DISTRIBUTING ANTI-NUCLEAR PAMPHLET IN WELLINGTON TIMED TO COINCIDE WITH ARRIVAL OF AMERICAN NPW. PAMPHLET SIGNIFICANTLY EXPANDS LABOUR'S PREVIOUSLY EXPRESSED POSITIONS REGARDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS/NPW VISITS AND TAKES BUT SLIGHTLY DISGUISED SLAP AT US. LABOUR PARTY EXECUTIVE SECRETARY HAS CONFIRMED THAT PAMPHLET HAS AUTHORIZATION OF PARTY LEADERSHIP AND PARLIAMENTARY GROUP. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING LAST TWO DAYS WELLINGTON CENTRAL LABOUR ELECTORATE COMMITTEE HAS DISTRIBUTED IN WELLINGTON AREA PAMPHLET DETAILING LABOUR PARTY'S POSITION ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, NUCLEAR WARSHIPS AND NUCLEAR ENERGY. THE USE OF THE BACK OF THE PAMPHLET TO
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APPEAL FOR DONATIONS AND LABOUR PARTY MEMBERSHIP MAKES

IT CLEAR THAT LABOUR PARTY BELIEVES THE ANIT-NUCLEAR
ISSUE IS OR CAN BECOME A POPULAR ONE WITH NEW ZEALANDERS.

3. PAMPHLET COVER IN BLUE AND WHITE MUCHROOM CLOUD
WITH CAPTION, "IS THIS NEW ZEALAND THE WAY YOU WANT IT?
LABOUR WANTS A NUCLEAR-FREE NEW ZEALAND".

INSIDE TEXT AS FOLLOWS:

QUOTE:

FACT: LABOUR WANTS TO KEEP NEW ZEALAND NUCLEAR-FREE.

FACT: A LABOUR GOVERNMENT BANNED VISITS BY NUCLEAR
WARSHIPS TO NEW ZEALAND.

FACT: LABOUR WANTS TO MAKE NEW ZEALAND INDEPENDENT --
LABOUR WILL NOT KOW-TOW TO ANY COUNTRY'S NUCLEAR
BULLYING, OR GIVE UP OUR INDEPENDENCE TO SHELTER
UNDER ANOTHER COUNTRY'S "NUCLEAR UMBRELLA".

FACT: A LABOUR GOVERNMENT, IN SPITE OF OPPOSITION FROM
THE NATIONAL PARTY, LET THE WORLD IN PUTTING A
STOP TO NUCLEAR TESTING IN THE PACIFIC.

FACT: LABOUR, WHEN IT BECOMES GOVERNMENT AGAIN, WILL
NOT ALLOW NUCLEAR POWER STATIONS TO BE BUILT IN
NEW ZEALAND UNLESS IT IS PROVED THAT THEY ARE
SAFE, UNLESS IT IS PROVED THAT THEY ARE ABSOLUTELY
NECESSARY, UNLESS IT IS PROVED THAT NUCLEAR
WASTE CAN BE SAFELY DISPOSED OF.

FACT: BY ALLOWING NUCLEAR WARSHIPS INTO NEW ZEALAND,
NATIONAL IS DESTROYING LABOUR'S ACHIEVEMENT
OF A NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC.

FACT: BY ALLOWING NUCLEAR WARSHIPS INTO NEW ZEALAND,
NATIONAL IS MAKING THIS COUNTRY PART OF THE
INSANE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE THAT COULD DESTROY
MANKIND, IS MAKING THIS COUNTRY A
POSSIBLE NUCLEAR TARGET, AND IS PUTTING OUR CHILDREN
AT RISK FROM A NUCLEAR ACCIDENT.

FACT: OUR CHILDREN DESERVE A BETTER CHANCE IN LIFE
THAN NATIONAL IS WILLING TO GIVE THEM. UNQUOTE.

4. EMBOFF TELEPHONED JOHN WYBROWN, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY LABOUR
PARTY, AND EXPRESSED EXCEPTION TO PAMPHLET, PARTICULARLY
TO POINTS TWO, THREE, SIX AND SEVEN WHICH CONCERN NEW ZEALAND'S
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BILATERAL AND ANZUS RELATIONS WITH U.S. ON POINT TWO, EMBOFF
SAID THAT USG HAD NEVER CONSIDERED NPWS TO HAVE BEEN "BANNED"
FROM NEW ZEALAND UNDER LABOUR GOVERNMENT OR UNDER THE
PRECEDING NATIONAL GOVERNMENT. RATHER THAT USG WAS ASKED NOT
TO SEND NPWS TO NEW ZEALAND UNTIL ISSUE OF ABSOLUTE LIABILITY
FOR NUCLEAR ACCIDENT WAS RESOLVED. AFTER PASSAGE OF HOSMER
RESOLUTION, LABOUR GOVERNMENT WAS NOTIFIED AND AN OFFICIAL
REQUEST WAS MADE TO RESUME NPW VISITS. THIS REQUEST WAS NEVER

REFUSED BY THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT. RATHER IT WAS STILL "BEING STUDIED" WHEN THE LABOUR GOVERNMENT WAS VOTED OUT OF OFFICE LAST NOVEMBER. SYBROW REPLIED THAT THAT IS NOT THE WAY THE LABOUR PARTY ELECTORATE OR LEADERSHIP NOW VIEW THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS.

5. TURNING TO POINT THREE, EMBOFF REMARKED THAT IT IS DIFFICULT FOR ANYONE NOT TO DRAW ANTI-AMERICAN AND ANTI-ANZUS CONCLUSIONS FROM THE STATEMENT. WYBROW SAID EMBOFF WAS BEING "TOO SENSITIVE". HE THEN ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT OPPOSITION LEADER ROWLING HAD SPOKEN TO AIR FORCE SECRETARY REED AT SOME LENGTH IN JULY ABOUT HOW EASY IT WAS FOR THE PUBLIC'S OPPOSITION TO NPWS TO BECOME ANTI-AMERICAN. LABOUR IS OF THE OPINION, HE SAID, THAT NEW ZEALAND NEED NOT WELCOME NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND NPWS TO QUALIFY AS A GOOD MEMBER OF ANZUS.

6. WYBROW SAID PAMPHLET "WILL NOT BE WITHDRAWN, IF THAT'S WHAT YOU'RE THINKING". HE SAID THE TEXT "CLARIFIES" LABOUR'S EARLIER POSITIONS ON NUCLEAR WEAPONS, POWER AND NPWS. IT HAS THE FULL APPROVAL OF THE LABOUR PARTY PARLIAMENTARY GROUP, EXECUTIVE AND LEADERSHIP.

7. COMMENT: WHILE WE ARE DISTURBED OVER THE ANTI-AMERICAN SLANT AND TONE OF THE LABOUR PAMPHLET, WE ARE MORE CONCERNED FOR THE POLARIZATION OF LABOUR PARTY'S POSITION ON THE NUCLEAR ISSUE WHICH THE PUBLICATION SEEMS TO REFLECT. PREVIOUSLY, LABOUR LEADERSHIP, AND PARTICULARLY ROWLING WHEN HE WAS THE PRIME MINISTER, HAD SEEMED TO PRESERVE AN OPTION ON THE MATTE OF NPW VISITS, EVEN WHILE PROMOTING THE SOUTH PACIFIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS FREE ZONE. ROWLING'S INSTINCTS FOR SURVIVAL AS A PARTY LEADER, HOWEVER, HAVE APPARENTLY LED HIM TO THROW IN WITH THE LEFT WING OF HIS PARTY -- AND THEY HAVE MADE THEIR SUPPORT CONTINGENT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UPON HIS ANTI-NUCLEAR CREDENTIALS. WHILE THE MERE PUBLICATION OF THIS PAMPHLET CLEARLY DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A COMMITMENT FOR ALL TIME, IT SEEMS EQUALLY CLEAR THAT LABOUR IS STAKING OUT A CLAIM IN THE ANTI-NUCLEAR AREA WHICH, SHOULD LABOUR IN THE FUTURE BE RETURNED AS GOVERNMENT, WOULD MAKE NEW ZEALAND'S ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN ANZUS MUCH MORE DIFFICULT.

SELDEN

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